UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/602,306	06/24/2003	Seth Ward II	4119-00400	1007

30652	7590	01/03/2005

CONLEY ROSE, P.C.
5700 GRANITE PARKWAY, SUITE 330
PLANO, TX 75024

EXAMINER
SHIN, MARC L

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
2836	

DATE MAILED: 01/03/2005

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

PTO-90C (Rev. 10/03)

		Application No.	Applicant(s)			*AK*
Office Action Summary		10/602,306	WARD, SETH			
		Examiner		Art Unit		
		Marc L Shin		2836		

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE <u>3</u> MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
  Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

1)☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on <u>21 December 2004</u>.

2a)☐ This action is FINAL.   2b)☒ This action is non-final.

3)☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

4)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-27</u> is/are pending in the application.

    4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.

5)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.

6)☒ Claim(s) <u>1-27</u> is/are rejected.

7)☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.

8)☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

9)☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.

10)☒ The drawing(s) filed on <u>24 June 2003</u> is/are: a)☐ accepted or b)☒ objected to by the Examiner.

    Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).

    Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).

11)☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

12)☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).

    a)☐ All b)☐ Some * c)☐ None of:

      1.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.

      2.☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.

      3.☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

    * See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

1)☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)

2)☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)

3)☒ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>6/2/2004</u>.

4)☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date. _____ .

5)☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)

6)☐ Other: _____ .

Drawings

1.   The drawings are objected to because they are informal. Corrected drawing

sheets in compliance with 37 CFR 1.121(d) are required in reply to the Office action to

avoid abandonment of the application. Any amended replacement drawing sheet should

include all of the figures appearing on the immediate prior version of the sheet, even if

only one figure is being amended. The figure or figure number of an amended drawing

should not be labeled as "amended." If a drawing figure is to be canceled, the

appropriate figure must be removed from the replacement sheet, and where necessary,

the remaining figures must be renumbered and appropriate changes made to the brief

description of the several views of the drawings for consistency. Additional replacement

sheets may be necessary to show the renumbering of the remaining figures. The

replacement sheet(s) should be labeled "Replacement Sheet" in the page header (as

per 37 CFR 1.84(c)) so as not to obstruct any portion of the drawing figures. If the

changes are not accepted by the examiner, the applicant will be notified and informed of

any required corrective action in the next Office action. The objection to the drawings

will not be held in abeyance.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

2.   The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that

form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

> A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3.   Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Jacobs (5,642,119). Jacobs discloses a parking meter (2) (see Fig. 1) comprising:

    A. A processor (102) to process parking related information (see Fig 14).

    B. The processor (102) has a direct drive to an LCD display which is used to display time and information concerning the operation and status of the parking meter (see col 7, lines 15-19). This reads on a clock in communication with the processor.

    C. An antenna (124) coupled to the parking meter for receiving a wireless broadcast data (see Fig 14)

    D. A receiver (122) communicating with the antenna to demodulate the wireless broadcast data received by that antenna (124) (see Fig. 14)

    E. An energy detector (128) that communicates with the receiver (122) to communicate the wireless broadcast data (see Fig. 14). The energy detector reads on an interface communicating with the receiver to communicate the wireless broadcast data.

4.   Claim 7 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102 (b) as being anticipated by Mushell (5,442,348).

Mushell discloses a computerized parking meter (1) (see Fig 1) and a portable

terminal (25) carried by a meter maid that transmits a wireless broadcast signal to an

interface (11) located inside the meter (see Fig 2). The wireless broad cast signal can

be acoustic, IR, microwave, or RF signal (see col 8, lines 25-30). Mushell further

teaches that the portable terminal (25) can synchronize the real time clock (12) of the

meter at the time of collection (see col 9, lines 9-11). This reads on the wireless data

being a time data related to a current time of day.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

5.   The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all

obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

> (a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set
> forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and
> the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the
> invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains.
> Patentability shall not be negatived by the manner in which the invention was made.

6.   Claim 2 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs

and King (5,014,071).

Jacobs discloses a parking meter with a processor, antenna, and a receiver, as

discussed in claim 1 above. Jacobs does not disclose that the antenna is a ferrite

antenna.

King teaches an antenna assembly comprising a core (10) of magnetically permeable material (a ferrite rod) which is positioned within the turns of an electrically conductive coil (12) (see Fig 1,2,3).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the parking meter of Jacobs to include a ferrite antenna, as taught by King. The motivation would have been to provide an antenna which is easily mounted and electrically connected to a printed circuit board (see King, col 2, lines 19-22).

7.   Claim 3 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs and Thomas et al (6,373,442).

Jacobs discloses a parking meter with a processor, antenna, and a receiver, as discussed in claim 1 above. Jacobs further discloses that the electronic components of the system are mounted on a printed circuit board (20) (see col 3, lines 60-62).

Jacobs does not disclose that the antenna is defined as a trace on the printed circuit board.

Thomas et al teaches a parking meter with an antenna defined by a trace (184) on a printed circuit board (182) (see Fig 6, and col 4, lines 32-41).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the printed circuit board of Jacobs to include the antenna defined by a trace on a printed circuit board, as taught by Thomas et al. The motivation would

have been to shape the antenna to fit within the space constraints of a particular type of

enclosure (see Thomas, col 1, lines 56-59).

8.   Claim 4 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs

and Wyatt (5,603,111).

Jacobs discloses a parking meter with a processor, antenna, and a receiver, as

discussed in claim 1 above. Jacobs does not disclose that the wireless broadcast data

is defined as an AM signal and the receiver is defined as an integrated circuit for

receiving the AM signal.

Wyatt teaches an AM receiver (10) for receiving AM signals that is defined as an

integrated circuit (see col 2, lines 53-67).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the receiver of Jacobs with the integrated circuit AM receiver for

receiving AM broadcast data signals, as taught by Wyatt. The motivation would have

been utilize the small size and low power benefits of an integrated circuit.

9.   Claims 5,6 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over

Jacobs and Mushell (5,442,348).

Jacobs discloses a parking meter with a processor, antenna, and a receiver for receiving wireless broad cast data, as discussed in claim 1 above.

Regarding claim 5, Jacobs does not disclose that the wireless broadcast data includes time data related to current time of day.

Regarding claim 6, Jacobs does not disclose that the processor is operative to synchronize the clock based on the time data in response to receiving the wireless broadcast data.

Mushell teaches a computerized parking meter (1) (see Fig 1) and a portable terminal (25) carried by a meter maid that transmits a wireless broadcast signal to an interface (11) located inside the meter (see Fig 2). The wireless broad cast signal can be acoustic, IR, microwave, or RF signal (see col 8, lines 25-30). Mushell further teaches that the portable terminal (25) can synchronize the real time clock (12) of the meter at the time of collection (see col 9, lines 9-11). This reads on the wireless data being a time data related to a current time of day (reads on claim 5).

Mushell further teaches that the microprocessor (10) is connected with a real time clock (12) (see col 7, lines 1-6), and the microprocessor communicates with the interface (11) to synchronize the clock based on the broadcast time data received from the portable terminal (see col 9, lines 9-11) (reads on claim 6).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the parking meter of Jacobs to receive wireless broadcast data that includes a time data related to a current time of day, and the processor synchronizes the clock based on the time data in response to receiving the wireless broadcast data,

as taught by Mushell. The motivation would have been to provide a means for a meter

maid to automatically update the clock on the parking meter as he or she is changing

the rates on the meter (Mushell, col 5, lines 19-20).

10.   Claim 8 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Mushell

and Chen et al (US 2004/0183946 A1). Mushell discloses a method for synchronizing a

clock on a parking meter by receiving a wirelessly broadcast data that includes a time of

day data, as discussed in claim 7 above. Mushell does not disclose that the time of day

data is based on an atomic clock.

      Chen et al teaches an apparatus for obtaining an atomic clock signal broadcast

that includes a tuner (115) configured to receive a broadcast transmission signal (120)

including an atomic clock signal (125) (see Fig 1).

      It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the method of receiving a wirelessly broadcast data that includes a

time of day data with a time of day data based on an atomic clock, as taught by Chen et

al. The motivation would have been to synchronize the parking meter clock to the an

accurate standard of time.

11.   Claim 9 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Mushell

and Landis et al (5,561,461).

Mushell discloses a method for synchronizing a clock on a parking meter by

receiving a wirelessly broadcast data that includes a time of day data, as discussed in

claim 7 above. Mushell does not disclose that the time of day data is based on a

reference generated by a television signal.

Landis et al teaches a receiver including a closed caption signal decoder

responsive to a data component of a television signal, such as extended data services

(EDS) data, that is representative of current time of day for setting current time (see col

3, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the reference of Mushell to include receive a data component of a

television signal that is representative of the current time of day, as taught by Landis et

al. The motivation would have been prevent a maintenance person from having to

manually adjust the clock of a parking meter, but instead to have the EDS system

automatically update the time of the parking meter, thus saving money for the

municipality who employs the maintenance person.

12.   Claims 10 and 11 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable

over Mushell, Chen et al, and Diehl (6,525,995).

Mushell and Chen et al disclose a method for synchronizing a clock on a parking meter by receiving a wirelessly broadcast data that includes a time of day data, the time of day data based on an atomic clock, as discussed in claim 7 above. The time of day data based on an atomic clock reads on a time reference based on a standard time measurement device. Mushell and Chen et al do not disclose Mushell does not disclose that the wirelessly broadcast data is defined as a wireless internet connection.

Diehl et al teaches a radio-controlled time-piece which receives wireless broadcast information over an internet connection (see col 3, lines 50-64).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to further modify the references of Mushell and Chen et al to include a wireless internet connection for transmitting broadcast data, as taught by Diehl et al. The motivation would have been to allow the parking meter to email a user's PDA when the parking meter time is about to expire.

13.   Claim 12 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kassab et al (6,812,857) and Mushell.

Kassab et al discloses an electronic parking meter system that includes a plurality of parking meter units that receive data from a data unit via a communication link (see Abstract). Kassab et al does not disclose a method of synchronizing the time circuits on a plurality of parking meters, comprising:

A. Broadcasting a time signal including a time of day data.

B. Receiving the time signal by a plurality of parking meters.

C. Synchronizing a clock on at least one of the plurality of parking meters based on the time signal.

Mushell discloses a computerized parking meter (1) (see Fig 1) and a portable terminal (25) carried by a meter maid that transmits a wireless broadcast signal to an interface (11) located inside the meter (see Fig 2). The wireless broad cast signal can be acoustic, IR, microwave, or RF signal (see col 8, lines 25-30). Mushell further teaches that the portable terminal (25) can synchronize the real time clock (12) of the meter at the time of collection (see col 9, lines 9-11). It is inherent that the synchronization of the real time clock is performed by the transmitting of a wireless broadcast signal to the meter. The wireless broadcast signal reads on a time signal including a time of day data.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the electronic parking meter system that includes a plurality of parking meters of Kassab et al to include a method of synchronizing the time circuits in the meters, as taught by Kassab et al. The motivation would have been to synchronize the time circuits in all of the parking meters simultaneously instead of synchronizing them one at a time.

14.   Claim 13 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kassab

et al, Mushell, and Chen et al.

Kassab et al and Mussel disclose a method for synchronizing time circuits on a

plurality of parking meters, as discussed in claim 12 above. Kassab et al and Mussel do

not disclose that the time of day data is based on an atomic clock.

Chen et al teaches an apparatus for obtaining an atomic clock signal broadcast

that includes a tuner (115) configured to receive a broadcast transmission signal (120)

including an atomic clock signal (125) (see Fig 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the method of Kassab et al and Mussel for synchronizing the time

circuits in the meters with a time of day data based on an atomic clock, as taught by

Chen et al. The motivation would have been to synchronize the parking meter clock to

the an accurate standard of time.

15.   Claim 14 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kassab

et al, Mushell, and Landis et al (5,561,461). Kassab et al and Mussel disclose a method

for synchronizing time circuits on a plurality of parking meters using time of day data, as

discussed in claim 12 above. Kassab et al and Mussel do not disclose that the time of

day data is based on a time reference generated by a television signal.

Landis et al teaches a receiver including a closed caption signal decoder

responsive to a data component of a television signal, such as extended data services

(EDS) data, that is representative of current time of day for setting current time (see col 3, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the references of Kassab et al and Mushell to include a receiver that receives a data component of a television signal that is representative of the current time of day, as taught by Landis et al. The motivation would have been prevent a maintenance person from having to manually adjust the clock of a parking meter, but instead to have the EDS system automatically update the time of the parking meter, thus saving money for the municipality who employs the maintenance person.

16.   Claim 15 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kassab et al, Mushell, and Dhiel et al.

Kassab et al and Mussel disclose a method for synchronizing time circuits on a plurality of parking meters, as discussed in claim 12 above. Kassab et al and Mushell do not disclose that the method includes establishing an internet connection. Kassab et al and Mushell do not disclose that the method includes establishing an internet connection.

Diehl et al teaches a radio-controlled time-piece which receives wireless broadcast information over an internet connection (see col 3, lines 50-64).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kassab et al and Mushell for synchronizing the time

circuits to include a wireless internet connection for transmitting broadcast data, as taught by Diehl et al. The motivation would have been to allow the parking meter to email a user's PDA when the parking meter time is about to expire.

17.   Claim 16 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Kassab et al, Mushell, Dhiel et al, and Chen et al.

Kassab et al, Mushell, and Dhiel et al disclose a method for synchronizing time circuits on a plurality of parking meters, as discussed in claim 15 above. Kassab et al, Mushell, and Dhiel et al do not disclose that the time of day data is based on an atomic clock. Kassab et al, Mushell, and Dhiel et al do not disclose that the time of day data is based on an atomic clock.

Chen et al teaches an apparatus for obtaining an atomic clock signal broadcast that includes a tuner (115) configured to receive a broadcast transmission signal (120) including an atomic clock signal (125) (see Fig 1).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the method of Kassab et al, Mussel, and Dhiel et al for synchronizing the time circuits in the meters with a time of day data based on an atomic clock, as taught by Chen et al. The motivation would have been to synchronize the parking meter clock to the an accurate standard of time.

18.   Claims 17,18,19,27 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable

over Jacobs and Mushell.

Jacobs discloses a parking meter (2) (see Fig. 1) comprising:

A. A clam shell shaped member (4) (see Fig 1). This reads on a housing.

B. A payment slot (24) (see Fig 2) coupled to the housing to receive payment for

parking.

C. A processor (102) to process parking related information (see Fig 14). Coin

sensing and detection circuitry that communicates with the processor to alert the

equipment that a coin has been inserted into the coin slot (see col 4, lines 8-19).

This reads on a processor in communication with the payment slot.

D. The processor has a direct drive to the LCD display which will be used to display

time and information concerning the operation and status of the parking meter

(see col 7, lines 11-19). The LCD display reads on a display communicating with

the processor to display a parking information based on a payment received via

the payment slot.

E. The processor (102) has a direct drive to an LCD display which is used to display

time and information concerning the operation and status of the parking meter

(see col 7, lines 15-19). This reads on a clock in communication with the

processor, the clock to maintain a time information for use by the parking meter.

F. An antenna (124) coupled to the parking meter for receiving a wireless broadcast

data (see Fig 14)

G. A receiver (122) communicating with the antenna to demodulate the wireless

broadcast data received by that antenna (124) (see Fig. 14)

H. An energy detector (128) that communicates with the receiver (122) to

communicate the wireless broadcast data (see Fig. 14). The energy detector

reads on an interface communicating with the receiver to communicate the

wireless broadcast data.

I. A coin chute (26) for receiving coins (see Fig 3). A coin box (53) is coupled to

the coin chute (26) (see Fig 3). (reads on claim 27).

Regarding claim 17, Jacobs does not disclose that the wireless broadcast data is

time data.

Regarding claim 18, Jacobs does not disclose that the processor is operative to

synchronize the time information maintained by the clock based on the wireless

broadcast time data.

Mushell teaches a computerized parking meter (1) (see Fig 1) and a portable

terminal (25) carried by a meter maid that transmits a wireless broadcast signal to an

interface (11) located inside the meter (see Fig 2). The wireless broad cast signal can

be acoustic, IR, microwave, or RF signal (see col 8, lines 25-30). Mushell further

teaches that the portable terminal (25) can synchronize the real time clock (12) of the

meter at the time of collection (see col 9, lines 9-11). This reads on the wireless data

being a time data related to a current time of day.

Mushell further teaches that the microprocessor (10) is connected with a real time clock (12) (see col 7, lines 1-6), and the microprocessor communicates with the interface (11) to synchronize the clock based on the broadcast time data received from the portable terminal (see col 9, lines 9-11).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the parking meter of Jacobs to synchronize the time information maintained by the clock based on the wireless broadcast data, as taught by Mushell. The motivation would have been to provide a means for a meter maid to update the clock on the parking meter as he or she is changing the rates on the meter (Mushell, col 5, lines 19-20).

Regarding claim 19, Mushell teaches that the microprocessor (10) is connected with a real time clock (12) with interrupt and alarm capabilities (see col 7, lines 3-6).

19.   Claims 20 and 21 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs, Mushell, and Chen et al.

Jacobs and Mushell disclose a parking meter with a processor, antenna, and a receiver for receiving wireless broad cast time data, as discussed in claim 17 above. Jacobs and Mushell do not disclose that the wireless broadcast time data is further defined as an AM signal with a time information based on a standard time measurement

device. Jacobs and Mushell also do not disclose that the standard time measurement

device is an atomic clock.

Chen et al teaches that a time and date maintained by the atomic clock is sent

out via 60 kilohertz radio waves, and particular clocks and watches are designed to pick

up the atomic clock signal (see pg 1, paragraph 2). Chen et al further teaches a device

with a tuner (115) that receives a broadcast signal (120) with an atomic clock signal

(125). The tuner (115) can be an AM tuner card (see pg 2, paragraph 18). The atomic

clock signal reads on AM signal.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the parking meter of Jacobs and Mushell with to receive an AM

signal with time information based on a standard time measurement device, such as an

atomic clock, as taught by Chen et al. The motivation for using the tuner card would

have been because the tuner can receive a video signal, audio signal, or a combination

of audio/video signals from a wireless broadcast transmission, thus enabling a user to

obtain not only audio information, but video information as well.

20.   Claim 22 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs,

Mushell, and Landis et al. Jacobs and Mushell disclose a parking meter with a

processor, antenna, and a receiver for receiving wireless broad cast time data, as

discussed in claim 17 above. Jacobs and Mushell do not disclose that the time

reference is generated by a television signal.

Landis et al teaches a receiver including a closed caption signal decoder

responsive to a data component of a television signal, such as extended data services

(EDS) data, that is representative of current time of day for setting current time (see col

3, lines 1-5).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the references of Jacobs and Mushell to include a receiver that

receives a data component of a television signal that is representative of the current

time of day, as taught by Landis et al. The motivation would have been prevent a

maintenance person from having to manually adjust the clock of a parking meter, but

instead to have the EDS system automatically update the time of the parking meter,

thus saving money for the municipality who employs the maintenance person.

21.   Claim 23 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs,

Mushell, and Dhiel et al..

Jacobs and Mushell disclose a parking meter that receives a wireless broadcast

time data, as discussed in claim 17 above. Jacobs and Mushell do not disclose that the

wireless broadcast time data is defined as a wireless internet connection providing a

time reference.

Diehl et al teaches a radio-controlled time-piece which receives wireless broadcast information over an internet connection (see col 3, lines 50-64). This information can include time telegrams which contain the local time information derived from a global satellite or Internet time base (see col 3, lines 40-45). This reads on a wireless broadcast time data defined as a wireless internet connection providing a time reference.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the references of Jacobs and Mushell to include a wireless internet connection for transmitting broadcast data, as taught by Diehl et al. The motivation would have been to allow the parking meter to email a user's PDA when the parking meter time is about to expire.

22.   Claim 24 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable over Jacobs, Mushell, Dhiel et al, and Chen et al.

Jacobs, Mushell, and Dhiel et al disclose a parking meter that receives a wireless broadcast time data defined as a wireless Internet connection providing a time reference, as discussed in claim 23 above. Jacobs, Mushell, and Dhiel et al do not disclose that the time reference is based on an atomic clock.

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to modify the time reference to be a time reference based on an atomic clock,

as taught by Chen et al. The motivation would have been to synchronize the parking

meter clock to an accurate standard of time.

23.   Claims 25 and 26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103 (a) as being unpatentable

over Jacobs, Mushell, and Silberberg (US 2003/00110821 A1).

Jacobs and Mushell disclose a parking meter with a processor, antenna,

receiver, and a receiving slot as discussed in claim 17 above. Jacobs and Mushell do

not disclose that the receiving slot is a card reader to receive a smart card.

Silberberg teaches a parking meter system that includes a parking meter (10)

with a processor (12) connected to a slot (28) that can receive a smart card (see Fig. 1

and pg 3, paragraph 49). Silberberg further teaches that the payment may also be

made with a credit card (see pg 4, paragraph 59).

It would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the

invention to modify the receiving slot of Jacobs and Mushell with a slot that can receive

a smart card or a credit card, as taught by Silberberg. The motivation would have been

to reduce the need for personnel to collect payment from meters to decrease the

infrastructure costs of providing the parking system (see Silberberg, pg 3 paragraph 9).

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Marc L Shin whose telephone number is 571-272-2267. The examiner can normally be reached on M - F 8AM - 5PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Brian Sircus can be reached on 571-272-2800 ext 36. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Marc L Shin
Examiner
Art Unit 2836

BRIAN SIRCUS
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800